

SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING PROGRAM – 2006

Shrewsbury High School students should plan on reading many books this summer, but as a minimum, students in grades 10, 11, 12 will be asked to read at least **three** books. In addition to the one required reading book for their upcoming English classes (books listed below), students in grades 10-12 must read **two** other books from the SHS School-wide Summer Reading List. Students must choose **one book from List A & one book from List B**.

This year, incoming Freshman (Class of 2010) will be required to read **three** books:

- Required English book (listed below according to grade level: 9 Hon, 9A, or 9B)
- Required Social Studies book: Hiroshima by John Hersey
- One book from List A

Required English Summer Reading According to Grade/Level

GRADE 12

12AP	<u>A Prayer for Owen Meany: A Novel</u> (Irving)
	<u>Their Eyes Were Watching God</u> (Hurstun)
12H	<u>A Prayer for Owen Meany: A Novel</u> (Irving)
12A	<u>Tuesdays with Morrie</u> (Albom)

GRADE 11

11AP	<u>Lincoln's Greatest Speech</u> (R. C. White)
	<u>Can't Buy Me Love</u> (J. Kilbourne)
	<u>Killer Angels</u> (M. Sharra)
	<u>Friday Night Lights</u> (H. G. Bissinger)
11H	<u>The Grapes of Wrath</u> (Steinbeck)
11A	<u>Into the Wild</u> (Krakauer)

GRADE 10

10H	<u>Brave New World</u> (Huxley)
10A	<u>A Gathering of Old Men</u> (Gaines)
10B	<u>Tunes for Bears to Dance to</u> (Cormier)

GRADE 9

9H	<u>Jane Eyre</u> (Bronte)
9A	<u>Inventing Elliott</u> (Gardner)
9B	<u>A Day No Pigs Would Die</u> (Peck)

SHS summer book lists were sent to the following locations:

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| • Borders (Shrewsbury & Marlborough) | • Annie Book Stop (Auburn) |
| • Barnes and Noble (Millbury & Worcester) | • Linda's Books & Gifts (Grafton) |
| • Tatnuck Booksellers (Westborough) | • Shrewsbury Public Library |
| • Waldenbooks (Greendale Mall & Solomon Pond Mall) | • Worcester Public Library |

You can also find these books on-line at www.amazon.com .

Bookmarking and Marking up the Text

After you've read a book, what do you remember? Do you remember enough to do well on a test? Would an essay that you might write about the book contain specific, detailed and appropriate examples? What kind of contributions could you make to a graded discussion? Each of these activities could be used as a test of the books in high school and in college.

In high school, students often finish reading the book the night before it is due, and it is still fresh in their memories when they are tested on it. Review is unnecessary. In college, however, students often read a list of 5-20 books with one evaluation of all of them occurring at the end of the semester. How would college students review all of these books? Would it be necessary for them to reread all of them?

As rereading an entire syllabus is impossible and ridiculous, an excellent review process must be used instead. "Bookmarking" and "marking up the text" are two such review techniques.

Bookmarking involves placing many paper markers in the book as it is read. Sticky notes work well, as they do not fall out. As the students read, they mark the place of anything that looks important. If they wish, students may add written notations such as "new character" or "symbol of evil" to the bookmarks. These written notes may be added later, if students do not wish to stop reading. After they finish reading the book, the students should go back through the book, discarding those bookmarks that no longer seem important. Although the book still appears to be "bristling" with papers, what is left are carefully selected pages that may be reviewed in a short time.

Marking up the text is useful as a reading aid as well as an aid to review. As the students read, they should carefully look for important elements involving plot, character, symbol, language, theme, and so on to underline or circle, writing an appropriate note in the margin. Watching for these elements as one reads is a way of staying alert and thinking about what is being read. Students should not mark up the page too much; being selective is a thinking process that helps to "teach" the novel. A heavily marked book is difficult to review, because it is messy and confusing to the eye.

Some students like to use a highlighting marker while reading. This is not a good way to mark up the text, because it is too easy to switch to auto pilot, automatically highlighting line after line until the entire page is a new color. These readers aren't paying very good attention to selecting the most important elements, and there is nothing specific to review later.

When bookmarking and marking up the text, students should be aware of **course themes and connections**. What does the teacher stress in class? What questions appear on tests and writing assignments? If students understand course concepts, they will read with intelligence and discrimination, and they will find what they are looking for as they read.

In September, students will be held accountable for having "bookmarked" or "marked up" their English department required book. "Bookmarked" or "marked up" text will be part of the testing process for the required book in English.

LIST A

CHOOSE **ONE** BOOK FROM THIS LIST

Note: Incoming Freshman choose a book from List A only

GENRE	
DI	Diary
FA	Fantasy
HR	Horror
MY	Mystery
N	Novel
NF	Non-Fiction
P	Play
PT	Poetry
SF	Science Fiction
SP	Sports
SS	Short story collection

READING LEVEL	
E	Easy
M	Medium
D	Difficult

The women's murder club battle for Lindsay's life on two fronts: before judge/jury and an unknown adversary.

84 Charing Cross Rd by Helene Hauff

N E Book #A524

The correspondence between strangers develops into an extraordinary friendship over 20 years. A charming little book that highlights the lost art of the written letter!

Alchemist, The by Paulo Coelho

N E Book #A888

Paulo Coelho's The Alchemist is a charming tale of Santiago, a shepherd boy, who dreams of seeing the world journeys from Spain to Morocco in search of worldly success, and eventually to Egypt, where a fateful encounter with an alchemist brings him at last to self-understanding and spiritual enlightenment. The story is full of specific wisdom about becoming self-empowered, overcoming depression, and believing in dreams.

All But My Life by Gerda Weissman Klein

NF M Book #A297

This is a memoir of a young Polish Jewish girl who is enslaved by the Nazis. Although her life is spent in the ghetto and camps, she is able to live the life of a normal teenager in many ways.

Angels & Demons by Dan Brown

N M/D Book #A724

A deadly vendetta against the Catholic Church by a centuries old underground organization sparks a frantic hunt through Rome. Before the DaVinci Code was broken the world lay at the mercy of Angels & Demons.

Bell Jar, The by Sylvia Plath

F M Book #A219

Tells the story of a gifted young woman's mental breakdown during a summer internship in New York City.

Big Bad Wolf, The by James Patterson

M D Book #A231

Alex Cross battles the most ruthless and powerful killer he has ever encountered – a predator known only as Wolf. Alex Cross's first case since joining the FBI has his new colleagues stymied. Across the nation, men and women are being kidnapped in broad daylight and then disappearing completely.

Black and White by Paul Volponi

N E Book #A675

Marcus and Eddie are best friends. They're also stars on the basketball court, where they're known as Black and White. Race has never been an issue: Marcus is black, Eddie is white, but it doesn't matter. Until they start to pull stickups for extra pocket cash and the gun they're using goes off. Now Marcus is going to jail and Eddie is going to college, even though Eddie is the one who fired the gun. Told in their two voices, Black and White is the gripping story of two good boys who make a bad mistake. It's also a heart-breaking look at the realities of the urban criminal justice system.

Case of Need, A by Michael Crichton

N E Book #A488

A death in a Boston hospital results in accusations of murder. Was it murder or accidental? This book brings medical ethics into question.

Cell: A Novel by Stephen King

HR M Book #A510

On October 1, and what came to be known as "the pulse" sent a signal through every operating cell phone that changes its user into something less than human. How do the survivors who weren't converted survive?

Chocolate War, The by Robert Cormier

N E/M Book #A506

Jerry Renault refuses to sell chocolates in his school's annual fundraiser. This challenges a secret school society and his defiant act turns into an all out war.

City of Falling Angels, The by John Berendt

NF M Book #A321

This story is about the fire that destroyed the historic Fenice Opera House. It is a catastrophe for the Venetians, made worse by the revelation that arson might have been the cause. In the course of the investigation, Berendt encounters a rich cast of characters. He tells a tale full of atmosphere and surprise as the stories of the individuals build, one after the other, ultimately coming together to portray a world as finely drawn as a painting.

Cobra II: The Inside Story of the Invasion & Occupation of Iraq **NF M Book #A812**

By Michael Gordon and General Bernard Trainor

Sourced at the highest levels,

Cobra II captures the fog of war and war planning. Read about the invasion plan, the march to Baghdad, enemy engagements, faulty intelligence, ignorance, personal politics, & lack of foresight.

Devil in White City, The by Erik Larson

N M/D Book #A631

Their fates were linked by the magical Chicago World's Fair of 1893, nicknamed the "White City" for its majestic beauty. Architect Daniel Burnham built it; serial killer Dr. H. H. Holmes used it to lure victims to his World's Fair Hotel, designed for murder.

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

N M/D Book #A930

This modern version of the story of Cain and Able was very provocative when first published in the 1950's. It follows the destinies of two intertwined families whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Able.

Elegant Universe, The by Brian Green

NF D Book #A899

Using vivid metaphors, physicist Brian Greene explains a current "theory of everything," string theory, which attempts to unite all the forces of nature, and all the manifestations of space and time, in a single model. The book was the basis of the acclaimed *NOVA* program of the same name.

Eleven Seconds by Travis Roy

NF M Book #A953

In 1995, a talented young hockey player skated onto the ice for his varsity debut with Boston University. Eleven fateful seconds later he was paralyzed from the neck down. This inspirational story is filled with grit, hope, humor and a young man's introspection on the meaning of sport and when the ability to participate is taken away.

Flags of Our Fathers by James Bradley

NF M Book #A444

The real life story of the men who raised the flag of Iwo Jima during World War II. Some graphic war descriptions.

Good Earth, The by Pearl S. Buck

N M Book #A366

The 2006-2007 Academic Decathlon Book. This novel follows the life of Wang Lung, from his beginnings as an impoverished peasant to his eventual position as a prosperous landowner in 1920's China.

Guardian, The by Nicholas Sparks

NF M Book #A707

A young woman's deceased husband leaves her a puppy and a promise he would always be watching over her.

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents by Julia Alvarez

N M Book #A981

It's a long way from Santo Domingo to the Bronx, but if anyone can go the distance, it's the Garcia girls. Four lively Latinas plunged from a pampered life of privilege on an island compound into the big-city chaos of New York; they rebel against Papi's old-world discipline and embrace all that America has to offer.

Hungry Ocean, The by Linda Greenlaw

NF M book #A033

The Hungry Ocean: A Swordboat Captain's Journey covers one 30 day trip of a sword fishing boat out of Gloucester, MA.

If I Grow Up: Talking with Teens about AIDS, Love & Staying Alive

NF M Book #A439

By Scott Fried This book tells the personal story of someone who is living with HIV. His story is told through conversations he has had with teens & poems that they have written in response to talking with him. It is an extremely moving book that makes you look at how you live your own life. (This book is not in bookstores but can be found on Amazon.com or at the library.)

Living on the Edge by Jeff Corwin

NF E Book #A399

Television host, Jeff Corwin, discusses his life experiences with animals and various ecosystems.

Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven by Sherman Alexie

N E Book #A555

Darkly comic short-story collection paints a complex, grimly ironic portrait of life in and around the Spokane Indian Reservation. Against a backdrop of car accidents, alcohol, laughter and basketball, the author explores issues facing modern Native Americans.

Lost Horizon by James Hilton

FA M Book #A225

While attempting to escape a civil war, four people are kidnapped and transported to the Tibetan Mountains. After their plane crashes, they are found by a mysterious Chinese monk who leads them to a hidden monastery, Shangri-La.

Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat, The by Oliver Sacks

NF M Book #A765

"...recounts case histories of patients lost in bizarre, apparently inescapable world of neurological disorders." "...splendid and sympathetic telling..."

March, The by E. L. Doctorow

N D Book #A702

This novel is the fictional account of General Sherman's march through Georgia in 1864. A fascinating variety of characters appear in this version of history.

Marley & Me by John Grogan

NF M Book #A611

Dog lovers will delight in the antics of Marley, a yellow lab, as he happily terrorizes the Grogan household. The reader gets to delight in Marley's mischief without having to deal with the mess or the embarrassment of such a dog. You can feel the affection in Grogan's writing, even as he relates his frustrating, humbling, and humiliating experiences with such a lovable menace.

Merchant of Venice, The by William Shakespeare

P D Book #A477

One of Shakespeare's best-known comedies, featuring Portia, one of his strongest female figures. The villain, Shylock, shows the anti-Semitic prejudice of Shakespeare's time.

Mind Gym: An Athlete's Guide to Inner Excellence

NF M Book #A688

By Gary Mack and David Casstevens This sports psychology book focuses on skills that can help you to improve both your athletic and academic performance

Mother of Pearl by Melinda Hines

N M Book #A190

Twenty-eight year old Even Grade is a black man who was orphaned as a child; 15-year-old Valuable Korner is a white girl who might as well have been. Petal, Mississippi, circa 1956, seems an unlikely spot for these two to connect, but it soon becomes apparent in this book that a friendship across race lines is just one of the many miracles waiting to happen in this small Southern town.

Mystery of Breathing, The by Perri Klass

N M Book #A156

Dr. Maggie Claymore, a 39-year-old neonatologist at a hospital in Boston, is not just good at her job, she is her job. Real-life pediatrician, Perri Klass has come up with an absorbing medical thriller that takes as its focus the aura of authority and remove that comes with the M.D.

Out of the Silent Planet by C. S. Lewis

SF M Book #A350

This book is the first novel of the Cosmic trilogy, considered to be Lewis' chief contribution to the science fiction genre. The trilogy concerns Dr. Ransom, a linguist, who, like Christ, was offered a ransom for mankind. The first two novels are planetary romances with elements of medieval mythology. Each planet is seen as having a tutelary spirit; those of the other planets are both good and accessible, while that of Earth is fallen, twisted, & not known directly by most humans. The story is powerfully imagined, and the effects of lesser gravity on Martian planet and animal life is vividly rendered. (Second book of the Trilogy is offered on List B – Perelandra)

Pecked to Death by Ducks by Tim Cahill

NF E Book #A179

Travel adventure stories about the author and his friends traveling to far away and sometimes dangerous places & doing insane things. Most of the stories are very humorous & light-hearted.

Pilot's Wife, The by Anita Shreve

N M Book #A111

A pilot's death opens up doors to his secret life.

Poe Shadow, The by Matthew Pearl

M M Book #A577

The strange circumstances surrounding the death of Edgar Allan Poe, intriguing to fans and scholars alike, provide the basis for this literary historical mystery.

President's Daughter, The by Jack Higgins

NF M Book #A012

The daughter of the Title is a comely French countess (or course), who's kidnapped by a group of Israeli extremists. In return for her safety, they want dad to nuke several Arab countries.

Random Family: Love, drugs, trouble & coming of age in the Bronx

NF M Book #A200

By Adrian LeBlanc Politicians rail about welfare queens, crack babies and deadbeat dads, but what do they know about the real life struggle it takes to survive being poor? Journalist LeBlanc spent some 10 years researching and interviewing one extended family – mother, daughter, daughter-in-law and all their boyfriends, children & inlaws in and out of public housing, emergency rooms, prisons and courtrooms.

Rebecca by Daphne DuMaurier

N M Book #A163

This riveting tale of fear, suspicion, and love opens as the unnamed narrator reminisces about her former home, the grand English estate, Manderley. She has been a young and shy lady's companion when she meets the wealthy widower, Maxim de Winter, falls in love with him and marries him in a matter of weeks. They return to his home, where she is immediately overwhelmed with responsibilities. Her new husband is strangely distant to her, until a horrible secret is revealed that will change their lives and the very existence of Manderley.

Rich Dad, Poor Dad by Robert T. Kiyosaki

NF M Book #A600

What the "rich" teach their kids about money that the poor and middle class do not. This book advocates financial independence by means of investing, real estate, owning businesses and the use of finance protection tactics. It is written in an entertaining anecdotal manner.

Safe at Second by Scott Johnson

N M Book #A333

A star pitcher's best buddy must find a way to help his friend and redefine his own goals when a line drive injures the athlete and dashes their dreams of glory. A tough and tender coming-of-age story with plenty of play-by-play action.

Savage Inequalities by Jonathan Kozol

NF D Book #A945

A searing, eye-opening expose of the inequality built into America's public education system. Traveling the most blighted neighborhoods of our country, Kozol discovers a separate and unequal school system for America's less fortunate.

Second Summer of the Sisterhood, The by Ann Brashares

N M Book #A222

Like the summer before, Carmen, Bridget, Tibby, and Lena share their individual adventures with the Pants collective, creating an engaging, kaleidoscopic narrative of four voices. The Second Summer, while breezy and fun to read, deals seriously with love lost and found, death, and finding the courage to live honestly. The teens' lessons are often painful, but the Sisterhood prevails.

Secret of the Pink Carnation, The by Lauren Willig

N M Book #A344

The famed spies of the Napoleonic Wars, the Scarlet Pimpernel and the Purple Gentian, are known, but who is the Pink Carnation? Eloise, a graduate student, goes to London to search for the identity. Through the eyes of a French girl exiled to England, we read about death avenged, historical romances, and more of this era.

Selfish Gene, The (old title **Nature Via Nurture**) by Matt Ridley

NF D Book #A413

Following his highly praised and best-selling book Genome: the Autobiography of a Species in 23 Chapters, Matt Ridley has written a brilliant and profound book about the roots of human behavior. This book explores the complex & endlessly intriguing question of what makes us who we are.

Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood by Koren Zailckas

N E Book #A561

Eye-opening and utterly gripping, Koren Zailckas's story is that of thousands of girls like her who are not alcoholics—yet—but who routinely use booze as a shortcut to courage and a stand-in for good judgment. With one stiff sip of Southern Comfort at the age of fourteen, Zailckas is initiated into the world of drinking. It is a cautionary tale.

Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln

NF D Book #A842

By Doris Kearns Goodwin Team of Rivals doesn't just tell the story of Abraham Lincoln. It is a multiple biography of the entire team of personal and political competitors that he put together to lead the country through its greatest crisis. Here, Doris Kearns Goodwin profiles five of the key players in her book, four of whom contended for the 1860 Republican presidential nomination and all of whom later worked together in Lincoln's cabinet.

Two Towers, The by J.R.R. Tolkein

SF M/D Book #A806

Second book in The Lord of the Rings trilogy. Frodo continues his quest to destroy the ring as Suruman and Sauran continue to build strength.

We Were The Mulvaney's by Joyce Carol Oates

N M Book #A123

The story of the Mulvaney family who seem to have it all until an incident involving their 16 year old daughter is hushed up and causes the bottom of their world to fall out.

Wicked: The Life & Times of the Wizard of Oz!

N M Book#A007

by Gregory Maguire In Maguire's original take on the classic tale, he focuses on the tragic life of Elphaba (aka. The Wicked Witch of the West). In this colorful and intriguing novel, we are carried away by the adventurous and unfortunate life led by a young girl who is destined to become "wicked" due to her parents' rejection and her horrifying green coloring. This is a timeless tale of rejection, love, hope, & redemption that appeals to our universal sense of compassion & acceptance.

Woodsong by Gary Paulsen

NF E Book #A099

An amusing account of Paulsen's attempt to train sled dogs and run them in the grueling 1,200 mile Iditarod Race in Alaska.

World is Flat, The by Thomas Friedman

NF M Book #A737

The exponential growth of technological advances during the digital revolution, coupled with the lowering of trade and political barriers have made it possible to do business, or almost anything else, instantaneously, with billions of people across the planet. This book explains how globalization has flattened worldwide barriers and its impact on us all.

LIST B

CHOOSE **ONE** BOOK FROM THIS LIST

GENRE	
DI	Diary
FA	Fantasy
HR	Horror
MY	Mystery
N	Novel
NF	Non-Fiction
P	Play
PT	Poetry
SF	Science Fiction
SP	Sports
SS	Short story collection

READING LEVEL	
E	Easy
M	Medium
D	Difficult

5th Horseman, The by James Patterson

M D Book #B133

It is a wild race against time as Lindsay's investigation reveals a hospital administration determined to shield its reputation at all cost. The Women's Murder Club hunt for a merciless killer among the hospital staff.

All That Remains by Patricia Cornwell

MY M Book #B994

A serial killer is loose in Richmond, specializing in attractive young couples whose bodies are invariably found in the woods months later minus their shoes and socks. Dr. Kay Scarpetta races against time and draws on her own personal resources to track down a murderer skilled at eliminating every clue.

All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren

N M/D Book #B864

Set in the 1930's, this Pulitzer Prize winning novel traces the rise and fall of demagogue Willie Stark. This novel was the model for the 1996 best selling political novel, Primary Colors. It is considered as relevant today as when it was written.

Among Schoolchildren by Tracy Kidder

NF M Book #B799

This book illuminates a year in the life of a 5th grade teacher struggling to make a positive difference in the lives of her students in Holyoke, MA. Her story, and that of her students is heartwarming and inspiring as she helps them to become full-scale human beings.

Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy

N D Book #B901

This is the story of a fashionable married woman and her liaison with a Count. Anna is brought down by others' passions and power over her.

Assassination Vacation by Sarah Vowell

NF M Book #B299

A quirky, funny book about the author's travels to sites associated with three presidential assassinations (Lincoln, Garfield, McKinley).

At First Sight by Nicholas Sparks

N M Book #B599

"There are a few things Jeremy Marsh was sure he'd never do: he'll never leave NYC; never give his heart away again after barely surviving one failed marriage; and most of all, never become a parent." Yet the arrival of a mysterious message changes everything.

Big Russ and Me by Tim Russett

NF M Book #B006

Tim Russett, one of America's most watched and trusted news anchors, connected with readers across the nation with his critically acclaimed memoir about growing up in the 1950's and the special bond between fathers and sons.

Black and Blue by Anna Quindlin

N M Book #B280

A woman in an abusive relationship leaves with her son to start a new life. All seemingly goes well until her past returns to haunt them.

Cat-Nappers, The by P. G. Wodehouse

N E Book #B876

One of Wodehouse's many novels about Bertie Wooster and his butler, Jeeves. The plot for this British comedy involves horse races, catnapping and other humorous events.

Chosen, The by Chaim Potok

N M Book #B469

In 1940's Brooklyn, an accident throws Reuven Malther and Danny Saunders together. Despite their differences the young men form a deep, if unlikely, friendship. Together they negotiate adolescence, family conflicts, faith, loss, love and the journey of adulthood.

Dance Hall of the Dead by Tony Hillerman

MY/N M Book #B245

When a boy is murdered, Navajo policeman, Joe Leapham, searches for a teenage runaway who may have some answers. The reader learns about Navajo and Suni customs.

Demon in the Freezer, The by Richard Preston

NF M/D Book #B920

This book discusses the threats of anthrax and smallpox on a global scale as forms of bio-warfare. It discusses the history of smallpox and carries it through post 9/11 times.

Education of a Coach by David Halberstam

NF M Book #B531

Pulitzer-winning journalist and author Halberstam focuses on Bill Belichick, one of the NFL's most successful coaches, and the game of football as a team sport with rich detail, exacting research and colorful anecdotes. He reveals what fans of the head coach of the New England Patriots have always

known: the roots of Belichick's coaching lie in the essential mentoring by his father, an excellent teacher and college coach who taught his son how to scout players and teams.

Eldest by Christopher Paolini

SF E/M Book #B015

Book 2 in the Inheritance trilogy. Eragon begins his training as a rider as problems mount back in his hometown.

Enchanted April, The by Elizabeth Von Arnim

F M Book #B919

Four Englishwomen vacation together at an Italian castle. Magical things happen while they vacation.

Encore Provence by Peter Mayle

NF E Book #B516

In Encore Provence, Mayle presents his most appealing story of the joys of Gallic life. There are glimpses into the secrets of the *truffle* trade, a *parfumerie* lesson on the delicacies of scent, the genetic effects of 2,000 years of *foie gras*, and a small-town murder mystery. This is a delightful, amusing and appealing look at life in Provence, France.

Enrique's Journey by Sonia Nazario

N M Book #B062

This is a fascinating book concerning the flood of young Central Americans coming to America and the treacherous journey they must undertake. This gripping story conveys the experience of illegal immigration from Central America.

Falling Angels by Tracy Chevalier

N M Book #B752

Three children form an unlikely friendship in a London cemetery. The family of five-year-old Maude Coleman has a plot adjoining that of the family of five-year-old Lavinia Waterhouse. Both families are uncomfortable with the other's choice of memorial. The Waterhouses' sentimental angel offends the Colemans' more elegant taste and their ornate urn is seen as pretentious by their neighbors. Petty irritations concerning the mourning dress of the women on the occasion of Queen Victoria's death emphasize the superficial constraints of English society and ironically foreshadow societal changes to come.

Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal

NF M Book #B508

By Eric Schlosser On any given day, one out of four American opts for a quick and cheap meal at a fast-food restaurant, without giving either its speed or its thriftiness a second thought. Fast food is so ubiquitous that it seems as American, and harmless, as apple pie. But the industry's drive for consolidation, homogenization and speed has radically transformed America's diet, landscape, economy and workforce, often in insidiously destructive ways.

Freakonomics by Steven Levitt & Stephen Dubner

NF D Book #B656

Steven Levitt has the most interesting mind in America, and reading Freakonomics is like going for a leisurely walk as he waves his finger in the air and turns everything that you once thought to be true inside out. Prepare to be dazzled.

Genome by Matt Ridley

NF D Book #B385

Genome: The autobiography of a Species in 12 Chapters delves deep within your body looking for dirt dug up by the Human Genome Project. Each chapter pries one gene out of its chromosome and focuses on its role in our development in adult life, but also goes further, exploring the implications of genetic research and our quickly changing social attitudes toward this information. Genome shies away from the "tedious biochemical middle managers" that only a nerd could love and instead goes for the A-material: genes associated with cancer, intelligence and more.

Girl Named Zippy, A by Haven Kimmel

NF E Book #B833

Laced with fine story telling, sharp wit, dead-on observations, and moments of sheer joy, Kimmel's straight-shooting portrait of her childhood gives us a heroine who is wonderfully sweet and sly as she navigates the world that surrounds Zippy.

Imitate the Tiger by Jan Cheripko

N E Book #B048

Chris Serbo, a senior, is an outside linebacker for the Valley View High School Dragons. He is also an alcoholic. His first-person story is revealed in two ways. Before each chapter, a brief italicized account tells what's going on in the present as Chris grapples with the Twelve Steps and, after football season is over, tries to finish high school at a rehab facility that he's been forced to enter.

Inconvenient Truth, An by Al Gore

NF M Book #B757

"...Features the latest intelligence and authoritative research from top scientists around the world, as well as facts, charts and graphs that explain the devastating causes & implications of global warming..."

In the Garden of Iden by Kage Baker

SF M Book #B625

Historical romance meet science fiction! The botanist, Mendoza, is an immortal cyborg. As a young child she was saved from the fires of the Inquisition by a time-traveling agent of Dr. Zeus, Inc. This 24th century company plucks abandoned children out of the past, rebuilds their brains and bodies with electronics and nanotech components, then sends them back to their own eras to collect precious items known to be lost or extinct in the future. But Mendoza is smart, cynical, and passionate – not exactly a "Company Woman." Her attitude is bound to bring her love – and tragedy.

In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex

NF M Book #B800

By Nathaniel Philbrick and Edward Herrmann In 1819, the Nantucket whaleship ESSEX set off to sea with 20 seamen only to be attacked and demolished 15 months later by a sperm whale the magnitude of the ship! Adrift (except for a short stop at a tiny island with limited water supplies) for more than 90 days and using only celestial navigation, these God-fearing, strapping men were driven to physical and psychological boundaries.

Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer

NF M Book #B300

First hand account of the ill-fated 1996 Mt. Everest expedition that saw eight people die in an attempt to summit the highest peak in the world.

Johnny Got His Gun by Dalton Trumbo

N M Book #B850

An anti-war novel written from the point of view of a severely injured World War I infantryman. This has been called "the most horrifying, moving protest which has even been raised against war."

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult

N M Book #B677

...Can a parent love too much, or is too much never enough? Anna is not sick, but she might as well be. By age thirteen she has undergone countless surgeries, shots, etc. so her older sister can fight leukemia. Like most teens, Anna is beginning to wonder who she is.

Odd Girl Out by Rachel Simmons

NF D Book #B252

This book discusses the hidden culture of aggression among teenage girls. This powerful national bestseller was so influential that it became the basis for the film, *Mean Girls*.

On a Pale Horse by Piers Anthony

FA/SF M Book #B021

After accidentally shooting Death, Zane is forced to assume the role of Grim Reaper and take over the task of ending the lives of others. Zane is caught between good and evil as he struggles to complete his painful but necessary task.

Pact, The: A Love Story by Jodi Picoult

N M Book #B227

The story of a high school couple, next door neighbors from infancy, who find themselves entangled in emotional turmoil that results in suicide.

Perelandra by C.S. Lewis

SF M Book #B450

Perelandra is a planet of pleasure, an unearthly, misty world of strange desires, sweet smells, and delicious tastes, where beasts are friendly and naked beauty is unashamed, a new Garden of Eden, where the story of the oldest temptation is enacted in an intriguingly new way. Here, in the second part of the trilogy, Dr. Ransom's adventures continue against the back drop of a religious allegory that, while it may seem quaint in its treatment of women today, nonetheless shows the capability of science to be an evil force tempting a ruler away from the path that has produced a paradisiac kingdom. (First book of the Trilogy is offered on List A - [Out of the Silent Planet](#))

Perfect Shot, The by Elaine Alphin

N M Book #B711

This thriller is about a high school senior who becomes involved in a murder in a small Indiana town. This novel weaves issues of civil rights, racial prejudice, history and basketball as a young man struggles with his morals.

Please Stop Laughing at Me by Jodee Blanco

N E Book #B432

This powerful, unforgettable memoir chronicles how one child was shunned—and sometimes physically abused—by her classmates from elementary school through high school. It is an unflinching look at what it means to be the outcast, how even the most loving parents can get it all wrong, why schools are often unable to prevent disaster, & how bullying has been misunderstood & mishandled by the mental health community. This vivid story will open your eyes to the harsh realities & long-term consequences of bullying and how all of us can make a difference in the lives of teens today.

Prep by Curtis Sittenfeld

N M Book #B036

Prep is an insightful, achingly funny coming-of-age story as well as a brilliant dissection of class, race, and gender in a hothouse of adolescent angst and ambition. Ultimately, Lee Fiora's experiences complicated relationships with teachers; intense friendships with other girls; an all-consuming preoccupation with a classmate who is less than a boyfriend & more than a crush, & conflicts with her parents that coalesce into a portrait of adolescence that is universal to us all.

Resilience and Courage by Nehema Tec

NF D Book #B141

Tec, a survivor and historian, compares the wartime experience of men and women. Distinct coping strategies and the fate of each gender is analyzed. Studies take place in the ghettos, camps, underground movement and the illegal Christian world.

Sea Glass by Anita Shreve

N M Book #B404

The story of a pair of young newlyweds who, setting out to build a life together in a derelict beach house on the Atlantic coast, soon discover how threatening the world outside their front door can be.

Short History of Nearly Everything, A by Bill Bryson

NF M Book #B001

From primordial nothingness to this very moment, [A Short History of Nearly Everything](#) reports what happened and how humans figured it out. To accomplish this daunting literary task, Bill Bryson uses hundreds of sources, from popular science books to interviews with luminaries in various fields. His aim is to help people like him, who rejected stale school textbooks and dry explanations, to

appreciate how we have used science to understand the smallest particles and the unimaginably vast expanses of space.

Snow Island by Kathleen Towler

N M Book #B313

This novel follows the fate of 16-year-old Alice Daggett, who still feels the presence of her father who died six years earlier, and of George Tibbit, a reclusive loner who returns to the island each year in an excessive act of homage to the two women who raised him there. Snow Island tells of their isolated lives and the impact that WWII has had on all their lives.

Song of the Cuckoo Bird, The by Amyula Malladi

N E Book #B114

Set in southeastern India, this memorable novel follows the life of an orphan married at age thirteen and her quest for acceptance and love. The novel follows Kokila and her makeshift family living in an ashram over five decades and chronicles India's historical and political struggles over half a century of change and upheaval. While all the main characters in this novel are deeply flawed and often make terrible decisions, they are universally appealing and most people can relate to the challenges they face on a daily basis.

Street Soldier by Edward MacKenzie Jr. & Phyllis Karas

NF M Book #B499

All due respect to the Gambinos and the Genoveses, but these Italian mob families aren't the only gangsters to make for compelling memoirs. In terms of relentless ruthlessness & its obsession with the almighty dollar, the Irish mob of Boston's James "Whitey" Bulger could match its New York counterparts hit for bloody hit. For decades, Edward J. MacKenzie, Jr. was a drug dealer, enforcer, and key associate of Bulger (on the lam as this book was published). Mac's first-person account of those years is rife with more gory details per page than the entire last season of *The Sopranos*.

Teacher Man: A Memoir by Frank McCourt

NF M Book #B700

Author's experiences as a high school English teacher in New York City for 30 years. He writes about his failures and successes.

Two Little Girls in Blue: A Novel by Mary Higgins Clark

M M Book #B933

The Queen of Murder mysteries, Mary Higgins Clark, will thrill you again with Two Little Girls in Blue. Kathy and her twin sister Kelly just celebrated their 3rd birthday, and on that very evening, Steve and Margaret their parents went out for dinner. When they got back home though, they found the babysitter unconscious, and the girls taken. Absolutely horror-stricken, as any parent would be, they called the authorities. And so the novel begins....

Truth and Fiction in the Da Vinci Code by Bart P. Ehrman

NF M/D Book #B740

Ehrman, chair of religious studies at UNC-Chapel Hill, has written widely on the subject of early Christian documents and the formation of the biblical canon. While acknowledging that Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* is an exciting mystery novel, Ehrman questions some of its historical claims. Focusing on 10 areas of concern, including the role Constantine played in the formation of the both the church and the Bible and the evidence for Jesus' personal involvement with Mary Magdalene, Ehrman reviews the historical record and demonstrates that Brown's history behind the mystery is seriously flawed. Ehrman is not concerned with theology; he has no interest beyond that of the professional historian who wants to arm the everyday reader with sound research and helpful historical perspective.

Unquiet Mind, An by Kay Redfield Jamison

NF M Book #B632

"An invaluable memoir of manic depression, at once medically knowledgeable, deeply human, and beautifully written..." NY Times Book Review

Walk in the Woods, A by Bill Bryson

N M Book #B527

Bryson writes a very funny account of hiking the Appalachian Trail including facts of the trail mixed in with comical situations.

War of the Rats by David L. Robbins

NF M Book #B601

Based on a true story during the battle of Stalingrad in WWII, two men – one Russian and one German, each the top sniper in their respected army, stalk each other with intent to kill and help win the battle for their country.

You Don't Know Me by Davis Klass

N E Book #B962

Fourteen-year-old boy struggles with fitting in, isolation and horrible family dynamics.